

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NAIROB 12923 191128Z

21

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PER-03 FBOE-00 A-01 SSO-00 LOC-01 /014 W

----- 043581

O R 190958Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4150

INFO USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS NAIROBI 12923

FOR AF/EX - KRYZA AND RYAN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: APER, KE

SUBJ: PREEMPTIVE OCCUPANCU OF EMBASSY HOUSE BY LOC OFFICER

REF NAIROBI 12817

1. AT 0900 HOURS LOCAL TODAY, NOVEMBER 19, DCM RECEIVED COMMERCIAL TELEGRAM FROM WELSH, ACTING LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS, STATING THAT "LIBRARY OF CONGRESS APPOINTS JOHN HOWELL AS ACTING FIELD DIRECTOR ARRIVING FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19. LIBRARY OF CONGRESS REQUESTS FULL COURTESIES EXTENDED TO MR. HOWELL BY THE EMBASSY, LIBRARY INTENDS MR. HOWELL TO OCCUPY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS RESIDENCE UNTIL PERMANENT FIELD DIRECTOR ARRIVAL EXPECTED IN 30-60 DAYS."

2. ON RECEIPT THIS MESSAGE, DCM ASCERTAINED THAT HOWELL HAD ALREADY ARRIVED NAIROBI AND HAD OCCUPIED RESIDENCE IN QUESTION. AT 1150 HOURS LOCAL DCM ADVISED HOWELL BY TELEPHONE THAT HOWELL HAD OCCUPIED HOUSE IN VIOLATION OF UNANIMOUS DECISION BY EMBASSY HOUSING BOARD ON NOVEMBER 12 TO ASSIGN USIA OFFICER TO THIS EMBASSY HOUSE. DCM TOLD HOWELL THAT HE WOULD NOT INSIST UPON HIS IMMEDIATELY VACATING HOUSE, BUT THAT FINAL DECISION RE DISPOSITION OF HOUSE WOULD HAVE TO BE MADE BY EMBASSY HOUSING BOARD, WHICH WILL MEET AGAIN ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23 AT 10:00 A.M, TO CONSIDER FACTS OF THIS EXTRAORDINARY SITUATION. HOWELL AGREED SITUATION WAS EXTRAORDINARY BUT DECLINED FURTHER COMMENT EXCEPT TO SAY HE WOULD BE INFORMING LIBRARY OF CONGRESS AND OTHER WASHINGTON OFFICIALS OF THIS CONVERSATION.

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3. WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE BY IMMEDIATE CABLE
SO THAT HOUSING BOARD CAN TAKE THIS GUIDANCE INTO CONSIDERATION
WHEN IT MEETS ON THIS QUESTION ON NOVEMBER 23. IN REPLYING
DEPARTMENT SHOULD TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION CONTENT OF REFTEL
AS WELL AS OF THIS MESSAGE.
MARSHALL

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NNN

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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TAGS: APER, KE
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